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Omega Delta

THE ALPHIAN

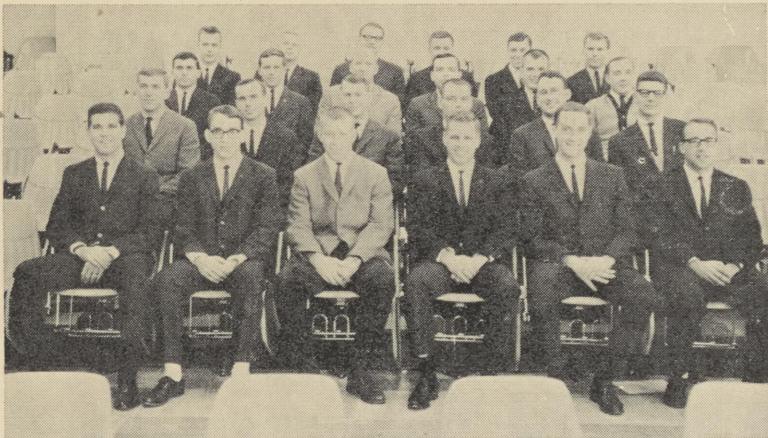
Official Publication of Omega Delta Fraternity at Illinois College of Optometry

VOL. 1—No. 1

ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

DECEMBER 4, 1964

OMEGA DELTA BEGINS BUSY YEAR



First Row — Amos Bowan, DeVere, Elverum, Ernzen, Ferris

Second Row — Forsythe, Hagan, Hoover, Kolarevic, Leadingham, McDunn

Third Row — Moreno, Opland, Osterland, Owen, Pederson, Rodabaugh

Fourth Row — Simpson, Skabo, Thomas, Weber, Wooledge, Zimmerman.

MEET THE OMEGA DELTS

Below are listed the twenty-six men who are active members of Alpha Chapter. If you don't know them, take the first possible opportunity to get acquainted, as they would like to know you.

JOHN AMOS—Parsons, Kansas, previously attended Parsons Junior College. John enjoys swimming, golf, and football. He is a member of the Council on Ethics, past social chairman of Omega Delta and winner of the Omega Delta "F" award.

MERRILL BOWAN—Baden, Pa., Merrill did his pre-optometric work at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa. He and his wife Cyndy both enjoy photography and music.

DAVID DeVERE—Morganton, N. C., Dave met his wife Marty while doing his pre-optometric work at the University of N. C. According to Dave he enjoys hunting for ducks and geese, and fishing for bass or anything else that comes along.

JOHN ELVERUM—Faribault, Minn., John attended St. Olaf College and the U. of Minn. His hobbies include swimming and golf. John was corresponding secretary last year.

PHIL ERNZEN—Coffeyville, Kansas, Phil went to Kansas State University, and is now Historian for Omega Delta. His hobbies include basketball, baseball, and a girl by the name of BETSY.

JAN FERRIS—Alma, Michigan, Jan has had a busy college career having attended the U. of Mich., Central Mich. Univ., and the U. of Wisconsin. For all of this work, Jan received a B.S. degree in mathematics. According to Jan, most of his spare time is spent either watching the T.V. tube, drinking or keeping the boys of 1707 in order.

KEN FORSYTHE—La Crosse State is the college Ken decided to attend after leaving his hometown of Tomah, Wisconsin, for three years of education. He is now the fraternity Pledge Chairman. When not with his girl Carol or bartending he is usually trying to rid himself of his disease.

LARRY HAGAN—Fortuna, N. D., Larry attended the University of N. D. During the warm months he and his wife Janet enjoy waterskiing.

(Continued page six)

EDUCATION PROGRAM

EXPANDED

This year, as in years past, Omega Delta continues to be the most active fraternity on the I.C.O. campus; and as always, maintains the highest spirit of professional, fraternal brotherhood.

This year Alpha Chapter has begun publication of a fraternity newspaper. The purpose of this paper is to establish a closer communication between Alpha Chapter, the alumni members, and I.C.O. students. News items will include the present and future activities of Alpha and items of interest about individual members. We are looking forward to the success of our first paper and to its continual publication for many years to come.

One of our many functions this year is the expansion of our Educational program. During the course of this year the fraternity will engage a number of guest speakers to give informal lectures on subjects related to the profession of Optometry. To mention a few, Dr. Jack Copeland, head of B & L Instrument Development Department, will lecture of the techniques and use of the retinoscope he invented. Wesley Jesson Contact Lens Company will send representatives to discuss the Compumatic Contact Lens. Eugene "Skip" Osterland of B & L Contact Lens Department will give a course in the basic fundamentals of contact

(Continued page two)

OFFICERS, FALL SEMESTER 1964

President	David Simpson
Vice President	Stephen Kolarevic
Scribe	Jan Ferris
Treasurer	Robert Skabo
Corresponding Secretary	Leo Weber
Social Chairman	Jerry Pederson
Historian	Phil Ernzen
Chaplain	Howard Newman
Worthy Keeper of the	
Inner Court	Griff Thomas
Rush Chairman	Ken Forsythe

THE ALPHIAN

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Co-Editors

Merrill Bowan and Jim Leadingham

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

What Is A Professional Fraternity?

At the outset, let us say that by definition, a professional fraternity is a fraternity of a profession, its membership open to brothers of a certain field.

Our fraternity, Omega Delta, is no longer just a professional fraternity, but incorporates some of the aspects of the social fraternity—with no pretenses to the contrary.

Alpha chapter of Omega Delta was founded at the Northern Illinois College of Optometry on Jan. 11, 1917, and as the first optometric fraternity. It became THE professional fraternity of Optometry. This was negated in later years with the founding of four other fraternities, one of which is now defunct.

The point we're trying to make is that, in Optometry, there are no professional fraternities in the true meaning of the term, because the fraternities have "lowered" themselves to social competition. There's no reason for more than one truly professional fraternity in any profession, unless it's to form cliques—which immediately puts matters on a social plane. This is what has happened to Optometry.

All the optometric fraternities try to retain a portion of the respectability that most other professional fraternities have from the start. Screening programs, instructional (?) movies, money-making booklets, school repair and maintenance, research (of undetermined origin, extent and purpose—mainly because I.C.O. is notorious for its lack of research facilities and funds) and even slight-of-hand tricks may be tried to preserve some iota of basis for the word "Professional" in their charter.

Then, putting paint brushes and movie cameras aside, these "professional" fraternities announce in their bulletin board. FREE BEER! GIRLS! ROCKING (LIVE) MUSIC!

(Continued page five)

OMEGA DELTA BEGINS BUSY YEAR

(Continued from page one)

lenses. We have a representative from New Era Optical to speak on frame selection. Dr. Duane Sutter will speak on associate Optometric practices.

In addition to our educational program, our social calendar remains full. Alpha has been the host at three parties during the first eight weeks of school. True to tradition we invited the rest of the school to join us for rest and relaxation after the first six weeks test.

At the present time we are preparing for our annual smoker which will be held December 5. Every member is working hard to insure that this will be the greatest Omega Delta smoker in history, and they all have been great ones. There will be plenty of ripe Havana cigars, food, and foamy liquid refreshment as well as lively entertainment. We are expecting a good turnout of Alumni. We are hoping to be honored with the presence of Dr. C. J. Howe (Mich.) one of the founders of Omega Delta. When Dr. Howe attended the 1962 smoker he spoke on the background and history of Omega Delta. The Grand Vice President of the Grand National Chapter, Dr. Ronald Henson, sends word that he will be present. Other distinguished Alumnus who will be present are Dr. Charles Ott, Professor of first year Op-

Friends of Omega Delta

Below are listed the companies and people who have worked with Omega Delta to make this paper possible. Our deepest thanks and utmost appreciation goes out to each of them.

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ED FRISTOE
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TED LEVITT
GAIL MILLER
SUZY SIMPSON**

tometry at I.C.O.; Dr. Duane Sutter; Dr. Al Walke; Dr. Brian McPhail; Dr. Neil Stuhmer; Dr. Darrell Schlange and Dr. Rodger Truax.

We are all looking forward to the 1964 Smoker as well as to continue with a busy social and educational year for the fraternity.

"What did Dr. Ott say this morning?"

"Nothing."

"Of course. But how did he express it this time?"

**DON'T
MISS
THE
OMEGA
DELTA
SMOKER
DEC. 5**

**PLEASE SUPPORT
OUR
ADVERTISERS**

Did You Know That

1. Omega Delta was the first Optometric fraternity, with Alpha being the first chapter. It was founded by C. J. Howe and C. I. Josephson at the Northern Illinois College of Optometry on January 11, 1917.

2. Omega Delta has the only active National Fraternity. We have a National Conclave every two years where each chapter sends representatives to discuss and decide upon National policies. At every National American Optometric Association convention there is an Omega Delta hospitality room for a gathering of the brothers.

3. Omega Deltas pledging is the most active at I.C.O. When all the bids are dropped and pledging begins the only pledge you will be able to recognize will be the Omega Delt with his board.

4. At this time there are four other chapters of Omega Delta:

Epsilon—located on the campus of the Pennsylvania State College of Optometry.

Gamma is found at the Los Angeles College of Optometry.

Iota is to be found at the Southern College of Optometry.

Nu Chapter has its home at Indiana College of Optometry.

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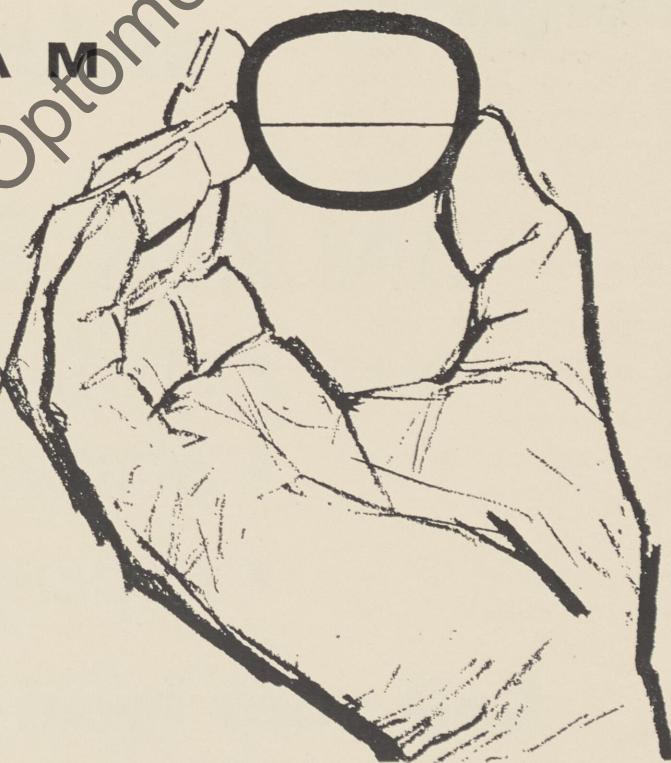
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EDITORIAL

(Continued from page two)

Hypocrites? Never!

If Dr. C. J. Howe, one of the founders of Alpha chapter of Omega Delta, comes to the O.D. smoker as we've planned, ask him why an Optometric fraternity was formed. The answer may shock you, as true as it is, but the fact remains that the students united as brothers in bond, come what may, for there was a need for unity.

The unity that began over 45 years now, still exists in Omega Delta.

WHY?

Because, in addition to the pledging that unifies the group, Omega Delta is the only fraternity that will not dissolve after your graduation! The five active chapters, all of which participate in the Grand National Conclave held biannually; the more than 4,000 alumni, who contribute for the annual smokers held at the five schools represented, who can be expected to attend those smokers, who renew old friendships at the AOA conventions (at which time all convention activities stop—because everyone's at the Omega Delta reunion); these maintain the unity and friendship started in the pre-grad days. You've all gone through the only meaningful pledging in optometry, you're sworn to the only nationally uniform Optometric Ritual and Mystic Rites, you've become truly brothers in bond (although some envious ones will snicker and say, "bottled in . . .").

We of Omega Delta have our projects and speakers, we have our fun, we have our friendships, but most of all, we have our united fraternity!

**Merry Christmas
and
Best Wishes
for
the New Year**
**PLEASE SUPPORT
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THE NATIONAL FRATERNITY AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES**Dr. Ronald W. Henson, National Grand Vice-President**

Omega Delta National Fraternity is comprised of four National officers, all of the local chapters, and the thousands of Omega Delta alumni. It is the purpose of the National to unite all Omega Deltas into a professional and ethical fraternity of optometric fellowship and brotherhood. Now let us examine the make-up of the local chapters.

The role of the local chapters is the life-blood of any national fraternity. From the first day of rush, followed by pledging and then becoming an active member, are years of great satisfaction and reward. The very essence for the existence of fraternities are evident here, as the local chapters are the foundation for brotherhood and professional optometry. For most optometric students this is their initial contact with any professional organization. This experience is the ground work for further participation in the many important societies and associations of organized optometry. All of these societies sincerely desire the participation and interest of all recent graduates. Therefore, it is the goal of National that all local chapters stress the importance of professional and ethical optometry and seek new members that desire this also. It is for this reason that Omega Delta has among their many alumni an impressive list of optometrists that have made significant contributions to the advancement of optometry.

It is through the interest of the National also, that brotherhood and friendship among men has been an ever present by-word in Omega Delta. This certainly was foremost in the minds of our founders, and National has been most interested to keep this friendship present in all chapters. This is further evidenced by the assistance from National regarding the pledging and initiation procedures, by the strong support from many alumni, and also by the successful Biannual Conclaves. There are many additional responsibilities of National—let us look at some of these.

Foremost among these duties are the

By-laws and Constitution of our fraternity. They are the guiding principles of our organization and are essential to a progressive and growing fraternal body. Whenever necessary, these By-laws are amended to meet changing conditions in the schools of optometry. Another important aspect of National is our personal contact with each local chapter. Whenever problems arise, National is most happy to give its assistance. Also, we are looking toward the future when new local chapters will be chartered in other optometry schools.

Equally important are the visits to the local chapters. It is most helpful to National and the chapters alike when National officers are able to attend official functions, such as Rush Smokers and Initiations. The culmination of National's efforts are evident at the Biannual Conclave. These conclaves have proven to be most helpful in the past. The support of all the chapters has been appreciated, such as the 1963 Chicago Conclave where representatives from every chapter were present. The knowledge and information gained at these meetings are extremely valuable for all.

Once schooling is completed, we encourage all Omega Dels to be active alumni. The support that is given after graduation is essential in keeping Omega Delta a strong, purposeful fraternity. As membership in our schools and fraternity continue to increase, additional support from our alumni will be needed. We are cognizant of the various problems that beset the local chapters and it is our desire to best serve you through a more effective and active National Chapter.

NATIONAL GRAND OFFICERS

Grand President

DR. DONALD DUN'TAN
Omaha, Nebraska

Grand Vice President

DR. RONALD HENSON
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Grand Scribe

DR. RONALD FLIENS
Belgrade, Florida

Immediate Past President

DR. R. C. MACALUSO
Fremont Nebraska

**OMEGA DELTA MEMBERS SHOW PRIDE
IN THEIR FRATERNITY WITH THEIR OMEGA
DELTA SWEATSHIRTS, OMEGA DELTA
DRINKING MUGS, AND HOW PROUDLY
THEY HANG THEIR BOARDS AND
PATENTS ON THE WALLS OF THEIR
APARTMENTS!**

(Continued from page one)

JOHN HOOVER—Norfolk, Neb., John attended Norfolk Jr. College before coming here. While in his first year, he was elected secretary of the first year class. John enjoys outdoor sports, his girl's name is Vicki, and his main ambition is to get out of I.C.O.

STEPHEN KOLAREVIC — Dearborn, Mich., Henry Ford Community College and Roosevelt Univ. helped prepare Steve for his work at I.C.O. Steve spent two years in the Army, has a lovely wife by the name of Bonnie, and at this time holds the office of Vice President of Omega Delta.

JIM LEADINGHAM — Ashland, Ky., Univ. of Ky., Jim has served Omega Delta as President and Vice President, and is now active as Vice President of the senior class, Student Council Representative, and Interfraternity Council Representative. He has a three year old son by the name of Chuckie, a girl friend by the name of Betty, and in his spare time enjoys Skeet shooting.

JOE MORENO—Oak Park, Ill., Joe attended Ariz. State Univ. His claim to fame is his talent for horizontal sports for which he is nicknamed "The Champ." He also received the O.D. "F" Award.

ROBERT McDUNN—Barnsville, Minn., Bob did his undergraduate work at the U. of N.D. Along with the help of his wife Donna Mae, he is the sire of one.

HOWARD NEWMAN—Detroit, Mich., Howie is now inactive, but plans to again retain active status next semester.

RON OPLAND—Canton, S. D., "Little Beaver," as he is known to his friends, is the top bed burner at 1707. He spent time at U. of S. D., Wilson Jr. College, Black Hills State College, and Creighton Univ. As hobbies he lists drinking, sex, etc.

Skip OSTERLAND — Cadillac, Mich., Skip says that he enjoys snowskiing and rightly so, because in 1957 Skip was on the number two Olympic skiing team. He also indicates a liking for Redeye.

JIM OWEN—Grand Blanc, Mich., the two colleges that prepared Jim for I.C.O. were the Mich. College of Mining and Tech. and Flint Junior College. In his spare time Jim enjoys raising dogs, sports cars, and his wife Marge.

JERRY PEDERSON — Charles City, Iowa, he did his pre-work at the U. of Iowa. He is now Social Chairman of Omega Delta.

ROD RODAUGH—Montour Falls, New York, Fla. Southern College and Univ. of Tampa. Last year Rod was Worthy Keeper of the Inner Court and this year he is married to a charming wife, Carol.

PLEDGING IN OMEGA DELTA

David Simpson, President of Alpha

The very word "pledging" stirs fear and trepidation in anyone who has ever joined a fraternity. Immediate thoughts run back to undergraduate social fraternities with their harassment, mental brain-washing and physical exhaustion. This is not the case with Omega Delta. We, as a professional fraternity, feel that pledging of this nature is not necessary in a profession. One might wonder then just why we have pledging.

Omega Delta, as the first optometric fraternity, was founded because of a serious defect in optometry. Students were coming to optometric schools as they would a trade school. The attitude was one of training for a job, not a profession. Omega Delta was founded to instill professional attitudes and feelings of pride and brotherhood toward both optometry and other doctors within the profession. Our pledging program is designed and carried out under this very idea. We

want unity, pride, and respect among our brothers.

The pledging program was designed by this chapter and approved by the National officers; it is a tradition carried on since the founding of the fraternity. Our program is designed to build pride and a sense of working together. The program must be achieving its goal as the other three optometric fraternities have "borrowed" many of our pledging ideas.

There is no harassment in Omega Delta pledging. Ask any Omega Delt about pledging and he will speak with pride of his board and the things his pledge class did. He will retain these feelings throughout his years in school and in his future practice, for once a choice of fraternity is made, it is a choice for life.

How is unity and pride established by pledging!? First, every future Omega Delt becomes close to the others in his pledge class. His activities and those of the other pledges are similar and done together. He soon feels a sense of comradeship by working toward future membership with others "in the same boat." He also gets to know the men who are already active fraternity members. When pledging activities are over, he will become a part of a closely knit group, working toward establishing a future ethical practice. Furthermore, he becomes familiar with the city because pledging activities lead him to various areas.

Finally, he takes pride in being a part of the Omega Delta tradition, the greatest optometric fraternity in the world.

It is not merely a coincidence that the letters "O.D." stand for Doctor of Optometry as well as Omega Delta. One can be proud of being both.

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